

May 8, 2002

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (DEIR) FOR THE AMENDED LITTLE TOKYO REDEVELOPMENT PLAN (FIRST DISTRICT)

On February 4, 1997, your Board instructed my office to prepare a report on each newly proposed redevelopment project area at the preliminary draft plan phase. In a memorandum dated February 11, 1997, we advised your Board of the types of notification the County receives on new redevelopment projects and the reports which will be provided to your Board. This process has recently been expanded to include Board reports on 1) other types of notifications, and 2) significant amendments to existing projects. Consistent with this process, we are advising your Board that the Los Angeles Community Redevelopment Agency has sent us the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the Amended Little Tokyo Redevelopment Plan. This DEIR includes the following information:

- The proposed amendment involves 1) expansion of boundaries of the existing plan East of Alameda Street to include the Arts District; 2) establishment of a 30-year project time frame for the Arts District portion of the proposed Amendment; and 3) reestablishment of eminent domain authority over the nonresidential property in Little Tokyo and establishment of eminent domain authority over nonresidential property in the Arts District.

Each Supervisor
May 8, 2002
Page 2

- According to the Agency, the proposed redevelopment effort includes such objectives as:
 - Execute agreements with existing owners and tenants located in the Project area;
 - Acquire property (by eminent domain if necessary) as necessary to carry out the Project throughout the Project Area;
 - Manage property under the ownership and control of the Agency until resold;
 - Relocate and rehouse displaced occupants of acquired property;
 - Demolish and remove buildings;
 - Install, construct, expand, add, maintain, or reconstruct streets, utilities, and other public facilities and improvements; and
 - Rehabilitate and preserve buildings and structures.

A project description and map provided by the Agency are attached. Further information will be available in the Agency's Preliminary Report. The Preliminary Report will include the Agency's analysis of blight, assessment of proposed financing, amount of tax increment anticipated from the proposed project, and a description of the redevelopment projects planned by the Agency. Upon receipt of this document from the Agency, we will send your Board another report, including a financial analysis and a determination of whether the proposed Amendment is generally consistent with Redevelopment Law.

If you have any questions regarding this information, please call me, or your staff may call Jerry Ramirez of my office at (213) 974-4282.

DEJ:LS
MKZ:JR:nl

Attachments

c: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel